

Plans Ahead on: Abram Hatch - Presiding Bishop

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What To Do:

Date
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What To Do:

Date
Done



R Raymond Green MD
375 E 2nd North
Heber City UT 84032

Ypsum Hatch - Reading District

Organization of State
Need Facts

John Taylor
Franklin D Richards

14-15 July 1877

1877 July 14 - 15

John Taylor &
Franklin D Richards
came to organize
a New State. It
included Summit
Co. Wasatch Co.
Built Tabernacle 1887
cost \$3,000

Joseph Murdock proved to be an able administrator and particularly efficient in dealing with the Indians. His kindness and generosity was respected by all. The Indians were particularly impressed because he had reared a young Indian girl and later married her.⁵

Presiding
Elder

→ Abram Hatch replaced Joseph S. Murdock as Presiding Bishop in December of 1867. He had been sent to Provo Valley by Brigham Young, and his arrival on

⁵William Lindsay, "A History of Wasatch County," *op. cit.*, p. 8.

ABRAM HATCH, PERMELIA
JANE LOTT HATCH AND
RUTH WOOLLEY HATCH

Abram Hatch was born January 3, 1830, in Vermont, son of Hezekiah and Aldura Sumner Hatch. He married Permella Jane Lott in 1852 at Lehi. She was born Octo-

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HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



ABRAM HATCH
Successful merchant and business leader.

BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



ber 2, 1832, in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, daughter of Cornelius and Permella Darrow Lott. She died December 2, 1880, leaving two sons, Joseph and A. C., and three daughters, Minnie, Jane and Lucy. Two other children, Charles and John, died in infancy. Married Ruth Woolley in 1882. She was a daughter of Bishop Edwin Woolley of Salt Lake City, and was 25 at the time of marriage. She was the mother of six children, Mary Ann, LaPrele, Edwin D., Vermont, Aldura and Lucine.

Abram Hatch, first stake president of Wasatch Stake, was a grandson of a Revolutionary War veteran, Jeremiah Hatch, who came to Plymouth Rock in 1760. His mother died while he was a boy, and his father died in 1841. Abram, with his two brothers and two sisters, Jeremiah, Lorenzo, Adeline and Elizabeth, moved to Illinois to live with grandparents. The children were left considerable money by their father, but it was entrusted to an uncle who used it for himself, leaving the youngsters to do for themselves. Abram had always desired an education, but it was not possible for him to obtain it. When his grandparents died he became a cabin boy on a Mississippi River boat, and later cut cordwood for a living. He worked as an apprentice in a store and learned merchandising. He

HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

came to Utah in 1850, and was married to Permella Lott in Lehi in 1852. They built a cabin by Utah Lake and started a farm and small merchandise business in Lehi. He also hauled freight and brought companies of immigrants back to Utah, making 11 trips across the plains. In 1861 he was called on a mission to England, leaving his wife and youngsters at home. His wife managed the farm, store and also ran freight teams to the Missouri River to obtain the needed supplies. She sold provisions to Johnston's Army. When her husband's mission was completed she was able to send him \$10,000 in gold dust to tour Europe and return home. He used most of the money to purchase merchandise enroute home. He bought a threshing machine, the first to come to Utah, and also stocks for the store. Two years after his return he was called by President Brigham Young to move to Heber and serve as bishop of the ward. He later became the first stake president and served 33 years in that position. Active in civic affairs, he was probate judge six years and served in the territorial legislature 23 years, authoring many worthwhile pieces of legislation. He also established a fine merchandising business in Heber and was known as a farmer and lumberer. His first home in Heber was built on the corner of First North and Main. He later built a large sandstone home east of his mercantile business. His first wife died at the age of 48 and was buried according to her wishes in Lehi by the graves of two small sons. He married Ruth Woolley in 1882. She was then 25 years old, and bore him six children, four daughters and two sons. She was a lovely, talented young lady, with a fine singing voice, and was a great help to him as he grew older. He died in Heber on December 2, 1911, and was buried in Heber City Cemetery. It was his wish that he be buried in the county he had helped build and where he had lived so long. 375



ABRAM HATCH

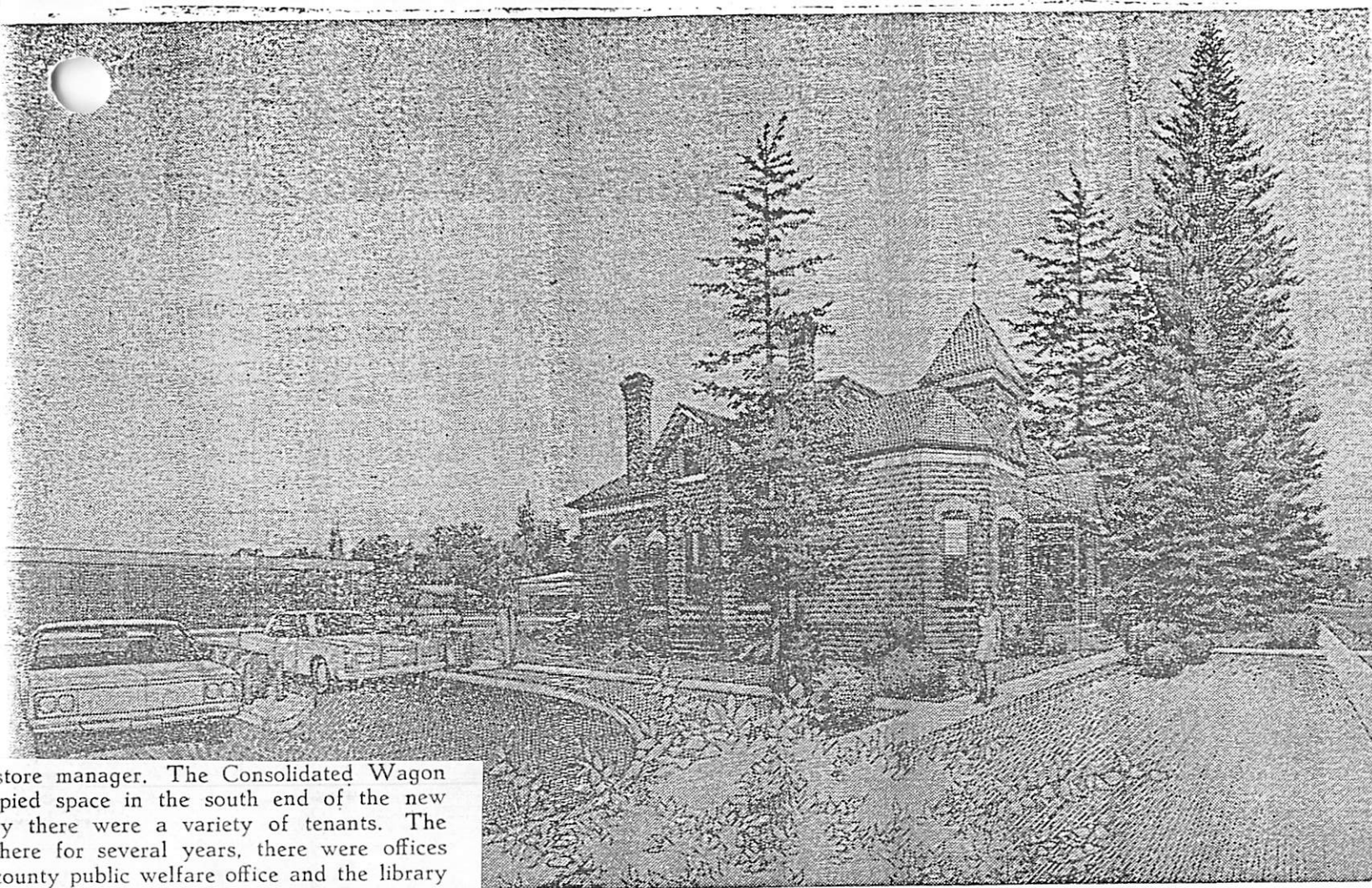
Successful merchant and business leader.

on Fourth North. Continuing success found him moving to a Main Street location which is now occupied by the Hi-Way Motel.

The store became commonly known as "Mark's Store." Mr. Jeffs promoted the use of his own medium of exchange. He made coins of tin in various denominations which he exchanged for the hay, grain, eggs or any other produce that customers brought in. One side of the coins bore the inscription, "Mark Jeffs, October, 1897, Heber, Utah." On the other side was inscribed "Good for (the value of the coin) in merchandise." Similar coins or "scrip" as it became known was also used later at the Heber Mercantile Company.

In 1903 Mr. Jeffs was called as a missionary for the Church to England. He left Joseph A. Rasband in charge of the store and his other business interests. When he returned from England, Mr. Jeffs sold the store in a newly organized company known as the Heber Mercantile Company. He retained half interest in the new business and acted as manager for a short time and then president of the company. The new venture had a capital stock of \$15,000 when it was formed.

A new building was constructed to house the Heber Merc, and



Zions First National to Remodel Hatch Home

Plans for restoring the old Abram Hatch house in Heber and using it as a Zions First National Bank office have been announced by Roy W. Simmons, President, and C. James Norton, Heber bank manager.

Purchase of the house and land ended speculation about the site's future. The house was recently designated by the Governor's Committee on Historical Sites for inclusion in the State's Historical Register. The purchase was hailed by Zions Bank officials and preservationists alike as the only practical means of saving the home from ruin or destruction.

THE BLOCK ON WHICH the Hatch house stands has been under study for some time as a site for a new shopping center for Heber Valley. Zions Bank officials contracted with shopping center developers for a spot in the center mall area for a bank office and the site allotted them was the one on which the Hatch home stands.

Bank officials were reluctant to demolish the house, however, and with the developers offered the structure free to anyone who wished to move it to another site. Zions Bank even offered to finance the cost of the move. This plan failed when a prospective mover found

that the house weighs 250 tons — well over the moveable weight. Two alternatives then remained: demolish the home in favor of a modern building, or remodel it for bank use. After careful study bank personnel concluded they would restore and remodel the structure.

ASIDE FROM ITS SPLENDOR did nineteenth century architecture, the Abram Hatch home is a landmark in Heber Valley. Its builder, Abram Hatch, was a prominent early resident. He was one of the first bishops of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Heber, and was the one who first brought trade and industry to the valley.

One of his enterprises, A. Hatch & Co., served as the valley's first "bank", as well as being a general store and the town's commercial focal point for many years. Mr. Hatch used to accept money and valuables of local citizens for protection in the store's safe over periods of time. The business, incidentally, still survives today and is known informally as the "Heber Exchange".

MR. HATCH BUILT THE home on the corner of Center Street and First East in about 1892, using the best masonry

and woodworking methods then available in Heber. Cost of building another house exactly like it today has been estimated in excess of \$250,000.

After the death of Mr. Hatch's widow, the house passed from one owner to another, and at one point was converted to apartments. Eventually the exterior fell into disrepair, the basic structure and interior of the house if well preserved.

In renovating the house for use as a bank, Zions First National officials have indicated they will try wherever possible to maintain the original beauty and workmanship, even down to woodwork details inside. When completed the house will continue to be a point of historical interest as well as a banking office for Heber Valley residents.

THE IDEA OF RENOVATING the house is somewhat unique in banking circles, running counter to most present-day trends for modern-looking buildings as bank offices. However, bank personnel say that using the old home rather than a new building will not affect the speed and efficiency of their banking operations. They are happy, they say, to be able to contribute to the preservation of a historical landmark.

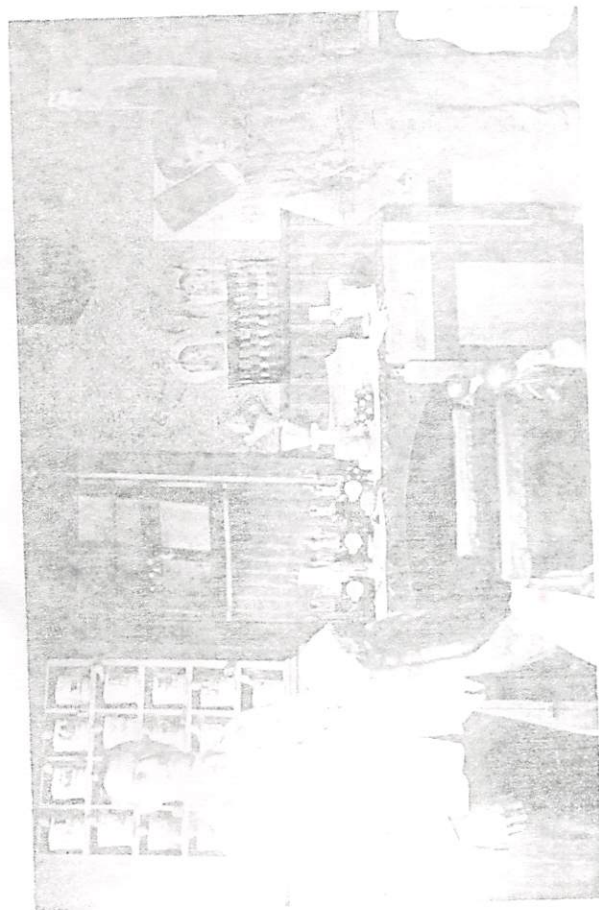
store manager. The Consolidated Wagon occupied space in the south end of the new building. There were a variety of tenants. The building here for several years, there were offices for county public welfare office and the library.

When the building's furnace caused a fire that destroyed completely the store building, the Forest Service office and Welfare office. After the fire the company was reorganized and a new building constructed. Charles DeGraff became manager. The building was sold to Engman Bond. At the present time the building is used by Safeway and the remaining part houses the company.

The company became known as the Heber City Store after Joseph Hatch included Ludvig and John A. Anderson, Ray Mahoney and

Mansion in Heber City will be renovated into

their Heber City office. The pioneer sandstone structure is located on the East Corner of First East Center and will be a part of new shopping complex.



Arch Davis and his first barbershop in Heber.

Mounford, a son of Frank, as the publisher. Farrell Reynolds, a long-time employee of the firm, assists Mr. Mounford.

BARBERS

Barber shops also played their part in the business and service picture of the community. One of the best early barbers was A. L. Davis who operated a shop on "Hatch Row" for many years beginning in 1902. For sanitary reasons, each regular customer had an individual shaving mug and brush that bore his name in large gold letters and often had a picture suggesting his individual trade or business.

Another early barber, Frank Epperson, opened his shop in 1905 and served the community continuously for more than 50 years. Albert Dixon worked with him for many of those years. Early advertisements by Mr. Epperson were for 25c haircuts and 15c shaves.

Some of the barbers who have worked in Heber, either in their own shops or shops of others include Will Wheable, Roe Duke, Doris Dayton, Bill McNaughton, Gene Land, Homer Branderberg, Rone Moulton, Warren Hicken and a Mr. McDaniel who was always called "Mac."

Those presently in business are Earl Dayton, Ramon Duke, Lyman Duke, Paul Probst and Rufus (Bood) Hicken.

Old Social Hall
North Main Street
Heber City, Utah

Abram Hatch directed construction
1872-3

... AND THE BARREN PLACE IS A FRUITFUL FIELD

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F. O. Buell's store which was built in 1894. Shown in this picture, taken in 1902, are F. O. Buell and clerks in front of the store and Owen and Golda Buell in the delivery wagon on the street. To the north of the building is the old Social Hall built in 1873.